The following questions are compiled from the information session held on 12/Jul/2023 and queries received by email before 21/Jul/2023:

**Question #1:** Is this call for proposals a grant?

**Answer to question #1:** Yes, this call for proposals is for a low value grant.

**Question #2:** Should the proposed project comprise all the levels?

**Answer to question #2:** No, the proposed intervention should address one or more of CoFSA core areas of intervention: (i) sustainable landscapes; (ii) food systems policy and pathways; or, (iii) supply chain transformation. For more information, please see [the Guidelines for Applicants](#), and refer to the ‘CoFSA Intervention Criteria’ (Annex I).

**Question #3:** What is the limitation on the overhead budget? Is there a limit on the overhead budget, considering only actual costs related to the intervention?

**Answer to question #3:** There is no limit on overhead budgets. Overhead budgets should be reasonable and aligned with the objectives outlined in the call for proposals. This will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

**Question #4:** Can you direct me to the documentation that outlines limitations on indirect cost expenditures?

**Answer to question #4:** There are no limitations on indirect cost expenditures. Indirect cost expenditures should be reasonable and aligned with the objectives outlined in the call for proposals. This will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

**Question #5:** How many project proposals will be awarded?

**Answer to question #5:** Approximately four grants will be awarded.
Question #6: Can individuals and/or businesses apply for this program?

Answer to question #6: No, individuals, private sector and commercial entities, and governmental organizations are not eligible. Please see the ‘Eligibility Criteria’ in the Guidelines for Applicants.

Question #7: Are US sole proprietorship eligible to apply?

Answer to question #7: No, individual, private companies are not eligible. Please see the ‘Eligibility Criteria’ in the Guidelines for Applicants.

Question #8: Are 501c3 US nonprofit organizations eligible?

Answer to question #8: Non-profit organizations are eligible to apply. Please see the ‘Eligibility Criteria’ in the Guidelines for Applicants.

Question #9: Are start-ups eligible to apply?

Answer to question #9: It depends on the legal status of your entity. This will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis, depending on the legal status of your organization, which may differ according to the country of registration. Please see the ‘Eligibility Criteria’ in the Guidelines for Applicants.

Question #10: Are cooperatives classified as part of civil society or the private sector?

Answer to question #10: It depends on the legal status of your entity. This will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis, depending on the legal status of your organization, which may differ according to the country of registration. Please see the ‘Eligibility Criteria’ in the Guidelines for Applicants.

Question #11: Are governmental organizations, such as research institutions, eligible to apply? Are universities eligible to apply?

Answer to question #11: Please see the ‘Eligibility Criteria’ in the Guidelines for Applicants. Civil society and (national or international) non-governmental organizations, including non-governmental academic or educational institutions are eligible. Governmental organizations are not eligible.

Question #12: How do you define the term "scaling up"?

Answer to question #12: “Scaling-up” means that the approaches tested, and learnings generated from context-specific interventions can be leveraged to inform application in other contexts or countries, to amplify the impact of conscious food systems.

Question #13: What is the level/extent of technical support provided?

Answer to question #13: Once the project has been selected, the CoFSA team will provide support to refine your intervention design and strategy, support during implementation (e.g., facilitate connections with relevant CoFSA partners) and support the capitalization of lessons learnt leveraging the CoFSA MEL framework. Also, UNDP CoFSA will promote the selected conscious food intervention to a broader audience across its network.

Question #14: Is it allowed for an organization to submit multiple project proposals?
Answer to question #14: We recommend applicants to submit one proposal only.

Question #15: What is the timeline for the project considering the short notice for September?
Answer to question #15: The implementation should be complete by March 2024.

Question #16: Is prior experience in implementing projects necessary?
Answer to question #16: Yes. As per the evaluation and selection criteria in the Guidelines for Applicants, proposals will be assessed according to a number of factors, including the expertise and experience of the project team or delivery partner(s) (see Quality of Intervention), and expertise and capacity to implement their proposed interventions (see Implementation Capacity). Applicants will need to have at least 2 years of experience in the relevant sector.

Question #17: Is it specific to the food systems or any sector?
Answer to question #17: This Call for Proposals for Conscious Food Incubator is specific to food and agriculture systems.

Question #18: How many proposals will be approved per country?
Answer to question #18: There is no specific geographic focus or restriction for the call for proposals, although diversity of the portfolio of interventions (including geographic) will be considered by the selection committee.

Question #19: What aspects would make a proposal interesting and engaging to read for you?
Answer to question #19: Please refer to the Guidelines for Applicants for all details on this.

Question #20: Who will evaluate the proposals, individuals from a food background or the inner development side? Will the proposals be reviewed by individuals with a background in food or inner development?
Answer to question #20: The selection committee will be formed of experts from both food and agriculture, and inner development backgrounds.

Question #21: Can you give specific examples of projects that have successfully scaled up or been replicated?
Answer to question #21: This is the first Call for Proposals for Conscious Food Incubator. Please refer to the CoFSA website for more information on conscious food projects, in particular the case study collection (available here).

Question #22: Where is it possible to access materials (slides, guidelines, application form, etc.)?
Answer to question #22: You can find all relevant materials in our website: Call for Proposals.

*End of the clarification*